AI Overview

To monitor and prevent new infections on plum trees, regularly inspect the leaves, branches, and fruit for unusual spots, growths, or discoloration. Prune for good air circulation and remove any infected parts immediately. Use fungicides at key times, such as late fall or early spring, to protect against common diseases like plum pocket or brown rot.

Regular inspection

- **Leaves:** Look for yellowing, spotting, or wilting leaves.
- **Branches and bark:** Check for cankers, dark areas, or abnormal growths.
- **Fruit:** Monitor for brown rot, mummified fruit, or fleshy growths.

Management and prevention

- **Pruning:**
  - Prune to ensure good air circulation, which helps prevent fungal diseases.
  - Remove all infected material promptly. Cut out diseased parts and dispose of them properly.
- **Planting:**
  - Choose disease-resistant varieties when planting new trees.
  - Plant in a spot with full sun and good airflow.
- **Fungicide application:**
  - Apply a fungicide to protect against diseases like plum pocket or brown rot.
  - The most effective timing is typically in late autumn after most leaves have fallen, or in early spring just before buds begin to swell.
  - Ensure the tree is sprayed thoroughly to cover all surfaces.

Other considerations

- Encourage beneficial insects that prey on pests like aphids.
- Avoid broad-spectrum insecticides, which can kill these beneficial predators.